Camp Hoekstra Neugebauer Campbell Hunter Nunes Inglis Cantor Cao Issa. Paul Capito Jenkins Paulsen Johnson (IL) Carter Petri Cassidy Johnson, Sam Platts Castle Jones Poe (TX) Chaffetz Jordan (OH) Posev Coble King (IA) Putnam Coffman (CO) King (NY) Rehberg Cole Kingston Roe (TN) Conaway Kirk Rogers (AL) Kline (MN) Crenshaw Rogers (KY) Culberson Kratovil Rogers (MI) Davis (KY) Kucinich Rohrabacher Deal (GA) Lamborn Rooney Dent Lance Roskam Diaz-Balart, L. Latham Rovce Diaz-Balart, M. LaTourette Ryan (WI) Donnelly (IN) Latta. Scalise Lee (NY) Dreier Schmidt Duncan Lewis (CA) Schock Ehlers Linder Sensenbrenner Ellsworth LoBiondo Sessions Emerson Lucas Shadegg Luetkemever Fallin Shuler Flake Lummis Shuster Fleming Lungren, Daniel Simpson Smith (NE) Forbes E. Fortenberry Mack Smith (NJ) Manzullo Foxx Smith (TX) Franks (AZ) Marchant McCarthy (CA) Souder Frelinghuysen Stearns Gallegly McCaul Garrett (NJ) Sullivan McClintock Terry Gerlach McCotter Thompson (PA) Gohmert McHenry Goodlatte Thornberry McKeon Granger McMorris Tia.hrt. Tiberi Graves Rodgers Mica Griffith Turner Miller (FL) Upton Guthrie Walden Halvorson Miller (MI) Miller, Gary Wamp Harper Hastings (WA) Whitfield Minnick Heller Mitchell Wittman Hensarling Moran (KS) Wolf Young (AK) Murphy, Tim Hill Myrick Young (FL)

NOT VOTING-19

Barrett (SC) Kennedy Shimkus Bishop (NY) Pence Stark Boucher Pitts Towns Cardoza Price (GA) Westmoreland Gingrey (GA) Radanovich Wilson (SC) Reichert Hall (TX) Johnson, E. B. Ros-Lehtinen

\Box 1317

Messrs. COFFMAN of Colorado and BILIRAKIS changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 66, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill H.R. 2701.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUMMINGS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas? There was no objection.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1105 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2701.

□ 1321

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2701) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for intelligence and intelligencerelated activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, with Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. REYES. Thank you, Madam Chair. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I am proud to rise today in support of H.R. 2701, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. This is an unusual time of the year for us to be considering this legislation. However, it is and remains a very important bill which addresses critical national security issues, and one that we ultimately need to see enacted.

As chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, my most important job is to guide the committee in providing appropriate tools, resources, and authorities to aid the dedicated men and women of the intelligence community in keeping our Nation safe. I believe that H.R. 2701 does just that.

First and foremost, this bill authorizes the activities and the funds for the 16 agencies of the intelligence community. It is difficult to talk about their roles and their missions in the open, but in some ways it is probably one of the most important things that we do on the Intelligence Committee. In addition to providing authorization for intelligence activities, this bill takes the initial important steps to improve congressional oversight of that intelligence community.

I want to highlight two legislative provisions from this year's bill that I believe will significantly improve over-

When this bill was marked up in committee, we made significant changes to the so-called "Gang of Eight" procedures. As Members know, the President has had the statutory authority to limit briefings to the Gang of Eight when they involve sensitive covert actions. It was the sense of the committee that the Gang of Eight statutory authority had been overused, and

that, on matters of critical importance, the committee as a whole should have been informed. For that reason, that earlier version of the bill removed the statutory authority for limiting briefings to the Gang of Eight.

Last July, the administration issued a statement of policy on H.R. 2701 that included a veto threat with respect to the provisions that would modify the Gang of Eight notification procedures. I believe that some level of concern at that point was justified, and I have been working with the administration over the past several months to resolve those differences. Since July, there have already been noticeable improvements in the way the administration and the intelligence community are communicating and briefing Congress.

Accordingly, the manager's amendment I will offer includes a revised provision on Gang of Eight reform. I know that many Members have strong feelings about this issue on both sides of the aisle. The provision that is in the manager's amendment is intended to be a strong and significant step towards better oversight which still respects the constitutional authorities of the President. It recognizes that both elected branches have a role in national security.

I fully expect that once we pass this bill we will then revisit this issue during conference between the House and the Senate. And I am happy to work with Members to seek improvements at that time. Through this process, we will be able to find a workable solution to a problem that has persisted over the past several years, if not longer.

Another provision that I think is absolutely critical establishes a statutory Inspector General for the intelligence community. This provision will eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse, and it will also help keep a close eye on the protection of the rights of Americans.

This year's bill is truly a product of many hands. The Inspector General provision, which I just spoke about, in large part is due to the efforts of Ms. ESHOO, the chair of the Intelligence Community Management committee. The vice chairman of the full committee, Mr. HASTINGS, has offered an amendment to include critical provisions on our shared interest in promoting diversity as a mission imperative. He has been working at this long and hard for many, many years. Our newest majority member, Mr. BOREN, has worked hard to develop a pilot program to improve language capability in African languages.

The chairman of the Technical and Tactical Subcommittee, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, has worked hard on the classified annex to make sure our approach to acquisitions and our most technical programs make good sense. He has been a pivotal part to the committee's oversight process in these

very important areas.

The bill includes several provisions offered by Ms. Schakowsky, the chairwoman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, which relate to